

### **Remarks**

After entry of the present Amendment, claims 1 and 3-22 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 is currently amended to incorporate the substance of dependent claim 2. Claim 3 is currently amended to correct dependency. Claims 5, 7, 12, and 14 are currently amended for antecedent basis purposes. Claims 15-22 are currently added as new claims. Support for new claims 15-22 is found throughout the application and no new matter is being introduced.

The Examiner indicated that claims 2, 3, and 7-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 is currently amended to incorporate allowable dependent claim 2. Independent claim 1 and allowable dependent claim 7 are presented as new independent claim 15. New claims 16-22 are dependent upon new independent claim 15 and mirror claims 8-10 and 2-5, respectively.

It should be appreciated that dependent claim 2 is currently cancelled and incorporated into independent claim 1 and that independent claim 1 and dependent claim 7 are presented as new claim 15 merely to expedite the prosecution of the allowed claims and is not an admission that independent claim 1 lack novelty or is obvious.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 15 and the claims that depend therefrom, are both novel and non-obvious such that these claims are in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully requested. Although no additional fees are believed to be due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2789 in the name of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC for any fees or credit the account for any overpayment for this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

**HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS PLLC**

9/10

Application No. 10/549,887  
Docket No.: RFR0102  
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/Christopher M. Francis/

**Christopher M. Francis, Registration No. 59,511**  
450 West Fourth Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 723-0392

10/10

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